

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph at page 7, lines 4-17 with the following amended paragraph:

91 --When placed between vertebrae, implant 10 can be inserted lengthwise in the gap in the spine between two vertebrae ~~210~~ 202a and 202b, as illustrated in FIGS. 7 and 8. For this application, the openings and corrugations 60 may be sized, shaped and positioned to insure load-bearing properties that support the spine. When bony material is packed inside the implant, the openings in the implant promote bone fusion between the vertebrae. Alternatively, the implant can be employed as a replacement for adjacent discs and at least one vertebral body that have been removed from the spinal column. For example, the implant can replace a vertebra and the discs positioned above and below the vertebra, thereby providing support for the spinal column in lieu of the removed discs and vertebra. In this arrangement, the implant will be employed with a pedicle screw system that employs pedicles screws, receiver members, and elongated rods, such as the system disclosed in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/749,099 filed Dec. 18, 2000, itself a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/407,044 filed Sep. 27, 1999. These applications are incorporated by reference herein.--

Please replace the paragraph at page 7, line 29 to page 8, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

92 --As shown in FIG. 6, implant 10 can be placed around a bone ~~200~~ 201 to provide support along the length of bone ~~200~~ 201 during treatment of the bone. Alternatively, implant 10 having corrugations 80 can be placed in a gap in the spine, such as between two vertebrae ~~210~~ 202a and 202b, as a spacer element, as shown in FIGS. 7 and 8. It is believed that because the foraminous implant is corrugated, the wall thickness of the implant can be lesser than an implant with a thicker sleeve that is not corrugated.--

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, lines 21-29 with the following amended paragraph:

93 --One embodiment of the invention is a method of providing an orthopedic implant, the method comprised of: providing a first sheet suitable for construction into an implant 10, designing the shape, size and position of openings 40 to be made providing a supporting lattice 60 of intersecting landed regions and forming the sheet into an implant 10. The ability to create the implant 10 from a sheet is one way to make the invention. This method allows the sleeve to be non-invasively installed around a bone ~~200~~ 201. In another method, the loop is preformed and the implant is designed by selecting the size, shape and position of the openings 10 and the corrugations 80. The corrugations are then imparted to the loop, thereby forming the implant.--

Please replace the Abstract with the amended Abstract attached hereto as Exhibit A (which is submitted on a separate sheet, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.72).